

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CORRECTIONS

September 14, 2006

The Honorable,
The Board of Commissioners of Cook County

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Maldonado, Vice Chairman Silvestri, Commissioners Butler, Gorman and Moreno (5)

Absent: Commissioners Peraica and Quigley (2)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Committee on Law Enforcement and Corrections of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County met pursuant to notice on Thursday, September 14, 2006, at the hour of 10:00 A.M. in the Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Your Committee has considered the following items and, upon adoption of this report, the recommendations are as follows:

276232 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE COOK COUNTY SHERIFF IMPLEMENT AN OFFENDER WATCH SYSTEM WITH AN AUTOMATIC E-MAIL ALERT CAPABILITY (PROPOSED RESOLUTION). Submitting a Proposed Resolution sponsored by Joseph Mario Moreno, John H. Stroger, Jr., President, Jerry Butler, Forrest Claypool, Earlean Collins, John P. Daley, Elizabeth Ann Doody Gorman, Gregg Goslin, Carl R. Hansen, Roberto Maldonado, Joan Patricia Murphy, Anthony J. Peraica, Mike Quigley, Peter N. Silvestri, Deborah Sims, Bobbie L. Steele and Larry Suffredin, County Commissioners.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, 80-95% of sexual assault victims know their attacker; and

WHEREAS, 50% of sex offenders re-offend; and

WHEREAS, 45% of sexual assault victims are under 12 years of age; and

WHEREAS, at least half of convicted child molesters report that they also have sexually assaulted an adult; and

WHEREAS, more than half of rape/sexual assaults happen within one mile of the victim's home; and

WHEREAS, 80% of all addresses have at least one offender within a mile; and

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 14, 2006

PAGE 2

WHEREAS, sex offenders cross socio-economic boundaries, living in both the richest and poorest of neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Illinois State statute sets a provision for a Sheriff's office to register offenders and notify the public; and

WHEREAS, offenders are very mobile, with 25% moving each year; and

WHEREAS, the new offender population increases by a rate of 10% annually; and

WHEREAS, ~~online~~ alert systems are available, which not only allow a citizen to look up registered offenders in their area, but to receive an email alert, ~~followed by a postcard~~ and/or automated telephone alert when a registered sex offender moves to within one mile of sensitive addresses, such as a home, school, park, etc.; and

WHEREAS, a web-based offender watch alert system will also permit one to conduct address searches that will create a map showing all offenders within one mile of the address, as well as a geographic risk assessment of the offenders; and

WHEREAS, this program will also allow for city and name searches, as well as provide detailed descriptions on offenders including: name, aliases, physical description, photograph, nature of conviction and a map of the offender's address; and

WHEREAS, this program is an important tool that will enable one to attain this necessary knowledge to help keep our children and families safe and at a relatively low cost; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of everyone to help protect our children from this seemingly ever increasing danger.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby request that the Cook County Sheriff's web site implement an Offender Watch Alert system with an automatic email alert capability, as well as an automated telephone alert capability, which will assist in informing our residents where sexual offenders reside and thereby giving them, in a timely manner, the information they need to protect their families and reduce the chance of future victimization.

***Referred to the Committee on Law Enforcement and Corrections on 03-01-06.**

Commissioner Moreno moved to accept the amendments made to the proposed resolution (Communication No. 276232). Seconded by Vice Chairman Silvestri.

Commissioner Moreno, seconded by Vice Chairman Silvestri, moved the approval of Communication No. 276232 as amended. The motion carried.

280250 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 11: TRAFFIC REGULATION OF THE COOK COUNTY ORDINANCES (PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT). Submitting a Proposed Ordinance Amendment sponsored by Elizabeth Ann Doody Gorman, County Commissioner; Co-Sponsored by Gregg Goslin, Carl R. Hansen, Roberto Maldonado, Joan Patricia Murphy and Mike Quigley, County Commissioners.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

**AMENDING CHAPTER 11: TRAFFIC REGULATION
OF THE COOK COUNTY ORDINANCES**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS that Chapter 11 (Traffic Regulations) of the Ordinances and Resolutions of Cook County be amended as follows to add Section 11-50:

Use of Mobile Telephones

11-50 (a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, no person shall drive a motor vehicle while using a mobile cellular analog wireless or digital telephone.

(b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to:

- (1) Law enforcement officers and operators of emergency vehicles when on duty and acting in their official capacities.
- (2) Persons using a telephone with a "hands free" devise allowing the driver to talk into and listen to the other party without the use of hands;
- (3) Persons using a telephone to call 911 telephone numbers or other emergency telephone numbers to contact public safety forces;
- (4) Person using a telephone while maintaining a motor vehicle in a stationary parked position, and not in gear.

(c) any person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall be subject to a fine of \$50.00 provided however, that if a violation occurs at the time of a traffic accident, the driver may be subject to an additional fine to exceed \$200.00.

***Referred to the Committee on Law Enforcement and Corrections on 07-12-06.**

Commissioner Gorman moved the approval of Communication No. 280250. The motion to approve failed due to a lack of a seconder.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 14, 2006

PAGE 4

Vice Chairman Silvestri moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Moreno. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Committee on Law Enforcement and
Corrections

Roberto Maldonado, Chairman

Attest:

Michelle Harris, Secretary